Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* Timings are arranged by taking into consideration public convenience and without prejudice to the other buses running on the line.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* Am I to take it that Government have not been considering the question of seniority of these services in giving the timings?

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* That also is taken into consideration. We will see if it is a regular service, whether its antecedents are good and things of that sort. But suppose a man has got a twenty-year old bus which will break down every hour of the day. Obviously in such cases seniority cannot be taken into consideration.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* All considerations being equal, do you attach any importance to seniority?

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* Yes.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* My question now is whether this rule will be overlooked if they refuse to carry the mails?

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* It all depends on the circumstances of each case.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talapplli):* Are there any cases where the Police Department has changed the timings of buses without consultation with the Anchal Department?

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* I am not aware.

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Neither am I.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Do you get any payment from these people for doing this honorary service?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Yes.

APPOINTMENTS BY STAFF SELECTION BOARD—OF NEW RECRUITS

35. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether any persons, who were not in the list of acting hands published in the Gazette after the report of the Staff Selection Review Committee,

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appointed to Government posts on the recommendation of the Staff Selection Board;

(*b*) if answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, why were appointments made in supersession of the claims of acting hands?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) Yes. Fresh hands as well as candidates with prior acting service whose service could not be verified before the publication of the list have been appointed.

(*b*) To satisfy communal claims. In making fresh appointments the claims of no individual with officiating service within the same community or sub-community have been overlooked.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty *(Ezhuvas-Trichur):* Is this the practice obtaining ever since the institution of the Staff Selection Board?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* Ever since the new rules were introduced.

CENTRAL JAIL—OPENING OF READING ROOM, ETC.

36. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the Government has noted on p.5 of the *Mail* dated 29th September 1940, the proceedings of the annual meeting of the Madras Presidency Non-Official Jail Visitors' Association ;

(*b*) whether they have noted the suggestions for improvements by them ;

(*c*) whether they have specially noted about the necessity of reading rooms in the Jails ;

(*d*) whether there is a reading room in our Central Jail of the type mentioned in that proceedings ;

(*e*) if not, will the Government be pleased to open such a reading room in our Central Jail ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Yes.

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